

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 EA-11 ISO-00 IO-14 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 NEAE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 ACDA-19 NIC-01 AGR-20 AID-20 COME-00 EB-11

FRB-02 TRSE-00 XMB-07 OPIC-12 CIEP-02 LAB-06 SIL-01

OMB-01 CEA-02 STR-08 INT-08 SAJ-01 AEC-11 SCI-06

DRC-01 /264 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8101

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY KABUL

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

USLO PEKING

AMCONSUL BOMBAY

AMCONSUL CALCUTTA

AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMCONSUL MADRAS

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 13838

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, GEN, IN, UR

SUBJ: BREZHNEV'S VISIT TO INDIA

REF: STATE 232833, NEW DELHI 13535

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SUMMARY NEGOTIATIONS DURING BREZHNEV'S VISIT ON KEY ASPECTS

OF THE INDO-SOVIET ECONOMIC RELATIONSHIP ARE EXPECTED TO RESULT IN THE SIGNING ON NOVEMBER 29 OF A LONG-RANGE AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION (SEE FOLLOWING MESSAGE FOR CONFIRMATION). THE SOVIETS APPEAR TO HAVE TAKEN THE LEAD IN POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS. BREZHNEV'S PUBLIC SPEECHES HAVE HIGHLIGHTED THE USSR'S PAST AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS TO INDIA AND MRS. GANDHI HAS EXPRESSED EFFUSIVE GRATITUDE FOR SOVIET ASSISTANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. TO DATE, BREZHNEV'S VISIT HAS BEEN PROCEEDING PRETTY MUCH ALONG THE LINES SET FORTH IN OUR EARLIER ASSESSMENT (NEW DELHI 13535).

2. BENEATH THE RHETORIC AND FLOURISHES, NEGOTIATIONS ON KEY ASPECTS OF INDO-SOVIET ECONOMIC RELATIONS APPEAR TO BE THE CENTRAL ELEMENT. TEAMS LED BY SOVIET GOSPLAN CHIEF BAIBAKOV AND INDIAN PLANNING MINISTER D.P. DHAR HAVE DEVELOPED THE OUTLINES OF AN EXTENSIVE LONG-TERM AGREEMENT THAT WAS CONSIDERED BY THE GOI'S POLITICAL ACTION COMMITTEE NOVEMBER 27. THE AGREEMENT IS EXPECTED TO BE SIGNED NOVEMBER 29 ALONG WITH A JOINT INDO-SOVIET DECLARATION SETTING FORTH THE VIEWS OF THE TWO GOVERNMENTS ON THEIR OVERALL RELATIONSHIP AND POLITICAL ISSUES.

3. AGREEMENTS ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION ARE EXPECTED TO INCLUDE GENERALIZED LONG-RANGE SOVIET COMMITMENTS TO INDIA'S DEVELOPMENT, COVERING A 15-YEAR PERIOD. THE SOVIETS ARE LIKELY TO PROMISE SUBSTANTIAL ASSISTANCE TO INDIA'S FIFTH FIVE YEAR PLAN CONCENTRATING ON PUBLIC SECTOR PROJECTS IN STEEL, HEAVY ENGINEERING, OIL EXPLORATION, AND AGRICULTURE. THERE IS NO FIRM INFORMATION YET ON THE DETAILS OF ECONOMIC DISCUSSIONS. THE FINAL AGREEMENT ON ECONOMIC COOPERATION MAY INCLUDE SOME SPECIFIC COMMITMENTS, BUT WILL PROBABLY LEAVE DETAILS TO LATER TECHNICAL NEGOTIATIONS.

4. THE SOVIETS SEEM TO HAVE TAKEN THE LEAD IN THE POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS WITH HEAVY EMPHASIS ON THEIR VIEWS REGARDING DETENTE, THE MIDDLE EAST, DEVELOPMENTS IN EUROPE, AND ASIAN AFFAIRS. THEY HAVE STRESSED THAT SOVIET EFFORTS TOWARD DETENTE ARE IN THE INTEREST OF INDIA AND THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES.
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ALTHOUGH THE SOVIETS HAVE BEEN CIRCUMSPECT IN PUSHING TOO OPENLY THE ASIAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY PROPOSAL, PRESS SPOKESMAN ZAMYATIN TOOK ADVANTAGE OF QUESTIONS AT A PRESS CONFERENCE TO PUBLICIZE SOVIET VIEWS. HE MAINTAINED THAT THE ASIAN SECURITY SYSTEM SHOULD BE MULTILATERAL, IT SHOULD RESULT FROM A CONFERENCE AS IN EUROPE, AND IT SHOULD EMERGE AS THE CULMINATION OF A PRECESS WHEREBY THE COUNTRIES CONCERNED ACCEPTED THE BASIC PRINCIPLES INVOLVED. THIS PROCESS COULD GO AHEAD WITHOUT

CHINA AS HAD UN DISARMAMENT EFFORTS WHICH CHINA OPPOSED.

5. BREZHNEV'S PUBLIC STATEMENTS HAVE STRESSED THE SOVIETS' PAST AND FUTURE COMMITMENTS TO INDIA IN BOTH ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL AREAS AS WELL AS SUPPORT FOR MRS. GANDHI AND HER GOVERNMENT. HE HAS REFERRED IN PASSING TO COUNTRIES THAT DON'T WANT INDIA TO BECOME SELF SUFFICIENT AND IMPERIALIST POLICIES OF PERPETUATING TENSION, BUT HIS DELIVERIES HAVE GENERALLY EMPHAISZED THE POSITIVE ASPECTS OF THE SOVIET ROLE IN WORLD AFFAIRS. MRS. GANDHI HAS EXPRESSED EFFUSIVE GRATITUDE FOR SOVIET ASSISTANCE, NOTING THAT INDIA KNOWS WHO ITS REAL FRIENDS ARE (THEREBY TAKING THE EDGE OFF STATEMENTS DURING THE SUMMER OF 1973 WHICH SEEMED TO EQUATE THE TWO "SUPER POWERS"). SHE SAID INDIAN AND SOVIET POSITIONS ON MAY ISSUES WERE SIMILAR, AND STRESSED THAT THEIR FRIENDSHIP WAS NOT DIRECTED AGAINST ANYONE. AT THE SAME TIME, SHE HAS NOTED THAT INDIAN AND SOVIET PATHS OF DEVELOPMENT WERE DIFFERENT AND THAT INDIA HAS PURSUED ITS COURSE WITHOUT ANY PRESSURE FROM THE USSR.

6. WE WILL PROVIDE FURTHER ANALYSIS AFTER AGREEMENTS AND DECLARATIONS ARE SIGNED.
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